

Approved For Release 2001/04/02 : CIA-RDP96-00791R000100040003-1

~~SECRET~~SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED ACTIONSTAR GATE

REQUEST: The DCI is requested to construct a retrospective review and technical analysis of the data that has been produced by the program since its inception 20 years ago. This includes an inventory and analysis of the files held in the CIA, while it administered the program, as well as in DIA. The study should also address compliance with Congressional direction. (C)

Response: The data for this retrospective review, technical analysis, and compliance with Congressional direction have been retrieved from current DIA activity files. CIA will conduct its own program review. DIA is not the home of record for results obtained by DoD Service organizations regarding this phenomena during the 1970s. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

During the period between 1975 and 1979, the following DoD Service elements supported psi research:

-- The U.S. Navy program was to evaluate an individual's ability to perceive remote visual stimuli. This effort was to answer the question whether the phenomena exist. No additional information is on file regarding the Navy program.

-- The U.S. Air Force National Air Intelligence Center, formerly the Foreign Technology Division (FTD), initiated its program by asking whether the phenomena existed and whether it could be used to collect intelligence. The analysis revealed that further research was required before remote viewing (RV) could become an effective tool. As a result, FTD began to explore areas that would have a direct bearing on improving the application of RV to include the effects of feedback and effectiveness over distance. In addition, FTD focused on the former Soviet Union and initiated attempts to replicate foreign experiments. No further information is on file about the FTD work in this arena.

SG1B -- The [REDACTED] research effort focused on the use of RV to collect intelligence data. [REDACTED] chose to SG1B abandon the study for reasons that are unknown.

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-- The U.S. Army's Missile Research and Development Command (MIRADCOM) had Stanford Research Institute (SRI) under contract from August 1977 to 1978. The work was done under the sponsorship of the Missile Intelligence Agency (MIA). The objective of the MIA program was to determine whether selected individuals could interact and influence, by mental means only, sensitive electronic equipment. The extension of MIA's effort was related to the general question concerning the existence of the phenomena. Under the division of labor in the Army GRILL FLAME project, MIRADCOM had responsibility for developing a Remote Perturbation experimental program. The project was to have been conducted in two phases.

-- From May 1979 to September 1979, SRI assisted MIRADCOM in developing sensitive measurement equipment for the experiment. Phase II was to be another contract with SRI, possibly involving human test subjects.

-- The MIA portion was to be passed to another MIRADCOM element (the Missile R&D Laboratory).

No further information is on file regarding MIRADCOM's efforts in this arena.
(S/NOFORN)

The Army Material Systems Analysis Activity (AMSAA) extended the applications-oriented research lines begun by other organizations. Its interest was RV, and it sought immediate applications of the phenomena by targeting SRI viewers on daily field exercises. In September 1978, AMSAA contracted with SRI to do a number of tactically oriented RV tasks. In 1979, AMSAA extended the contract with SRI to April 1980. No further information is on file.
(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

During this same period of time, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (USAINSCOM) was also asked whether RV could be used to collect intelligence data. As a result, USAINSCOM established an in-house unit to collect intelligence information in response to customer requirements. The USAINSCOM personnel that were assigned to the unit received initial RV training at SRI. In addition, USAINSCOM financed research efforts that were closely linked to its applications and operational mission. End-of-year funds were to have been requested in FY 1980. Additional Army HUMINT program funds were to have been included for Project GRILL FLAME for FY 1981.
(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

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The following funding summary for the U.S. Army portion of the program was extracted from Project GRILL FLAME documentation.

Year	Sponsor	Funding (Dollars in Thousands)	Purpose
CY 1977-78	MIA	\$80 Program VI	Psychokinesis (PK)
CY 1978	AMSAA	\$220 Program VI	Remote Viewing (RV)
CY 1979	MIA	\$118 Program VI	Psychokinesis
CY 1978-80	USAINSCOM	\$75 Program III	Remote Viewing
CY 1979-80	MIRADCOM	\$90 Program VI	Psychokinesis
CY 1979-80	MIRADCOM	\$190 Program VI	Unknown
CY 1979-80	INSCOM	\$25 Program III	Operations
FY 1981	DA Staff/ USAINSCOM	\$150 Program III	Remote Viewing
FY 1981	DARCOM	\$700 Program VI	Remote Viewing Psychokinesis (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

During the period that DoD Service organizations were involved, DIA also pursued some aspects of psychoenergetics. Its activities were restricted, however, to aspects clearly related to threat assessment and intelligence data collection. DIA contracted research with SRI to train individuals to do RV and supported attempts by experienced remote viewers to collect intelligence on former Soviet sites of operational interest. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

The joint program between DIA and USAINSCOM began in FY 1981. Although it may appear that DIA and INSCOM research lines diverge, both organizations were following their respective missions and both expanded the already identified research lines. A chronology is as follows:

-- In FY 1981, the DIA program looked at ways to improve the reliability of RV data, assessed foreign research, began work on countermeasures, and

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explored methods to input RV data into a computer for storage and manipulation. Additionally, efforts were begun to develop a comprehensive training program for RV. USAINSCOM, on the other hand, was looking for ways to improve the quality of data from its in-house capability, researched audio analysis, and means of targeting remote viewers.

-- The FY 1982 research was primarily an extension of the tasks begun in the previous year. One new area was initiated, however, involving one of the most difficult problems in RV research--how to evaluate RV-derived data. Although evaluation of RV data had been investigated for many years, this was the first identification of evaluation as a separate and special task.

-- All but one of the areas researched during FY 1983 were follow-on efforts to the FY 1982 work. The one new task was an attempt to develop a search methodology for finding lost items or people. This was clearly an effort to improve the intelligence application of RV.

-- The follow-on program covering FY 1984 and 1985 filled the gap between the end of the Joint Service Program and the U.S. Army 5-year program. The lines of research were extensions of work in the past fiscal year and focused on research needed to enhance RV to the point where it could be applied to intelligence problems. Training, evaluation, and search were emphasized. An additional effort concentrated on screening and selection of personnel. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

In January 1985, Project GRILL FLAME was transferred to DIA and was placed under the staff cognizance of the former Directorate for Scientific and Technical Intelligence. Moreover, a 5-year psychoenergetics program (FY 1986-1990), using Army medical research and development funds authorized by the then U.S. Army Surgeon General, was begun at SRI. The new program emphasized the medical and biological aspects of psychoenergetic phenomena. The stated objectives were to document that psychoenergetic phenomena are real and reproducible, to determine the underlying mechanisms, and to bring psychoenergetics research into the mainstream of human performance research. To accomplish these objectives, SRI began work to identify explanatory neurophysiological mechanisms and specify phenomenological properties. In addition, the Army medical program sought to determine physical, physiological, and psychological correlates of RV and to develop optimal application strategies. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

The FY 1991 Congressional language directed DIA to initiate a new program in anomalous mental phenomena (AMP). As a result, Project SUNSTREAK, former codeword for this project, was renamed Project STAR GATE and restructured as

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MDIS program vice its former SAP categorization. The program objectives accomplishments are as follows:

-- Funding of \$2 million received and obligated (\$1.5 million R&D, \$0.5 million O&M). Sole source R&D contract (\$1.5 million) with the Cognitive Science Laboratory (CSL), Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) on line by July 1991.

-- Objectives included formulating a long-range comprehensive plan, developing an integrated foreign data base, publishing foreign assessments, developing proper documentation, and obtaining external assistance.

-- Project STAR GATE established on 31 January 1991.

-- Published Foreign Assessments, Long-Range Comprehensive Plan by 30 May 1991.

-- Published or documented all other project requirements by June 1991.

-- Emphasized foreign data base development; initiated select basic research/application research projects.

-- Magnetoencephalograph (MEG) brain-wave measurement work at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Analysis of results was reported to be inconclusive.

-- Planning completed for a new significant research project scheduled 10 March 1992 that may isolate transmission mechanisms.
(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

The FY 1992 Congressional Authorization directed that the following be accomplished:

-- DIA realign 10 civilian billets. Realignment completed and Project STAR GATE personnel placed in civilian billets.

-- Prepare a 2-year architecture report within 120 days and provide it to the Committees on Appropriations. The report, Project Architecture, ODT-S-1042-SL, 30 March 1992, was delivered to the Committees.

-- Operational users should be identified in DoD and the Intelligence Community....and that a tasking relationship be developed with the Department of Defense Special Operations Command. The "Project Architecture" report

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ified over 12 users to include USSOCOM, USCENTCOM, and Joint Interagency
Forces East (formerly JTF-4) and West (formerly JTF-5), and JTF-6.
Projects also initiated with DIA analytical elements.

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-- An even balance between foreign assessments operational activities
and research....such that the three areas are related to and enhance each
other. The "Project Architecture" report developed approaches that were
implemented for achieving this program balance.

-- An additional Congressional plus up of \$2 million dedicated for R&D.
The contract was with the Cognitive Sciences Laboratory (CSL), SAIC. The
focus of the research effort was to develop an integrated 5-year research
plan, provide research support for applications development, and conduct basic
research leading to an understanding of the mechanisms for AMP.
(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

The FY 1993 Congressional direction authorized \$0.6 million for STAR GATE and
directed the DIA Director to determine the feasibility of transferring the
project to the Armed Forces Medical Intelligence Center (AFMIC), Fort Detrick,
MD. The study was undertaken and a decision was made to retain the
project at Fort Meade. Major accomplishments included:

-- Collection strategy revised and new data received, especially for the
former Soviet Union and Peoples' Republic of China (PRC). DoD HUMINT
collection requirements personnel briefed and sensitized to activity
requirements.

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-- All research initiated by the \$2 million funding received in FY 1991
completed. Major findings related to factors important in target/task
selection, data enhancement methods, and exploring select application areas.

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-- R&D funding (\$2 million) received in FY 1992 put on-line and most of the research/support objectives initiated. An additional \$131 thousand of R&D funding was programmed for the remainder of FY 1993. Emphasis placed on psychophysical correlates, potential mechanisms, improved analysis methods, foreign data base development, and expanded foreign assessment support. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

The FY 1994 Congressional language requested that the Director of DIA prepare a program plan and submit an appropriate budget request for a research effort, over several years, to determine whether the STAR GATE program can show results that are cost-effective and that satisfy reasonable performance criteria. The plan and any research under this program was to be subject to peer review by neutral scientific experts. The Director of DIA was also directed to prepare the research and peer review plan within existing program funds.

-- Project STAR GATE Research and Peer Review Plan, PAG-TA-1068-SL, was published in June 1994. With the receipt of FY 1995 Congressional language, the plan initiatives were not completed along with other DIA unfunded production requirements.

-- SAIC R&D program funds expired in May 1994. SAIC was put on two "no-cost-to-the-government" extensions with final expiration of the contract on 31 December 1994.

-- Customer base expanded through visits to USSOCOM, USCENTCOM, Joint Interagency Task Force-East, JTF-6, El Paso Intelligence Center (EPIC), and with in-house DIA elements.

-- Intelligence requirements in support of the Foreign Assessment Program were briefed to key CONUS-based interagency and DoD collection elements.

-- Forty five SRI/SAIC contract-generated R&D project reports were approved by DIA for declassification. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

Since FY 1980, the manpower structure devoted to Project STAR GATE remained constant (10 billets). During the same period O&M and R&D dollars fluctuated.

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funding summary, extracted from DIA documentation, is as follows:

FY Year	Other (O&M/R&D) (\$ in thousands)	Remarks
1980	450	None
1981	250	None
1982	175	None
1983	750	None
1984	1,300	None
1985	--	
1986	1,900	Army Surgeon general
1987	2,300	Army Surgeon General
1988	1,150	Army Surgeon General
1989	1,000	Army Surgeon General
1990	--	
1991	2,000	Congress +up
1992	2,000	Congress +up
1993	600	DIA
1994	500	DIA
1995	650	DIA

(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

The technical analysis presented below is drawn from SAIC supplied data. SAIC drew three primary conclusions from the overall efforts of the external Cognitive Science Program R&D effort with SRI and SAIC for the period 1973 to present:

-- The evidence for a valid information transfer anomaly (anomalous cognition (AC)) meets all recognized statistical and methodological criteria. This means the anomaly cannot be explained by poor experimental design, incorrect protocols, faulty analyses, or fraud. The magnitude of this anomaly is considered to be medium-to-large when compared to other known human behaviors.

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IC-supplied data shows that the applied research focus for the period 1973 to present was as follows:

-- Regardless of the final use of any research (applications or academic understanding), the problems are similar. To improve the quality of the results, it is necessary to:

- Identify individuals (called receivers) who possess skill in AC.
- Develop training methodologies to improve AC performance.
- Create protocols that are optimized to elicit AC.
- Invent sensitive and efficient analyses of AC data.

(S/NOFORN/SG/LIMDIS)

These topics and their supporting activity (e.g., data base construction) are included in what is defined as applied research. (S/NOFORN/WNINTEL)

A summary of applied basic research results for these four topic areas are as follows:

-- Approximately 1 percent of the general population appears to meet strict statistical criteria for exhibiting a robust AC ability.

-- While a number of training methodologies have been developed, CSL served only limited success. However, in analyzing the results of a number of receivers, they found that these receivers do not lose whatever ability they had at the start.

-- Without completely understanding the mechanisms involved, CSL developed a number of research and operational protocols that appeared to be consistently successful in both domains. (S/NOFORN/SG/LIMDIS)

SRI/SAIC's basic research focus for the period 1973 to present was to develop an understanding of the physical, physiological, and psychological mechanisms of AC by:

-- Identifying its source. That is, what is the "stuff" that is sensed with AC in analogy to photons in vision?

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-- Understanding the energy-transfer mechanism. That is, how does information propagate from point A to point B?

-- Locating the "sensory" apparatus within the body. That is, what are the biological transducers, and how is the information from those transducers processed by the central nervous system? (S/NOFORN/SG/LIMDIS)

These items are defined as basic research. The research by CSL has been based on a transmitter-receiver model as an underlying assumption.
(S/NOFORN/WNINTEL/SG/LIMDIS)

SAIC's summary of the results of basic research for these three topics includes:

-- During the CYs 1992-1994, CSL may have discovered the source of an AC signal. CSL found that the strength of the AC signal appears to be proportional to the total amount of "pure" information that is available at the target site. From information theory, this is technically called the total change of entropy. If this result can be confirmed by ongoing research, target selection could be considerably enhanced. For example, we will know what target types will yield information from this brand of "sensor." In addition, this could provide a method of selecting potential viewers. If the information of a particular target remains constant, then it could be possible to correlate differences in the quality of data from various viewers with inherent talent.

-- CSL identified a number of speculative theoretical approaches that could provide a transmission mechanism for a variety of AC signals, including the total change of entropy. Detailed models are difficult at this stage because AC, while statistically robust and behaviorally large, is "unreliable" in comparison to other physical systems. However, they developed one heuristic model, Decision Augmentation Theory, that organizes a 20-year data base for a specific class of experiments.

-- Although CSL has not yet been successful at identifying physiological mechanisms, recent experimental data from the former Soviet Union and similar experiments conducted in this country suggest that the peripheral nervous system may be susceptible to AMP influence. If this result can be confirmed, it could provide supporting evidence for the existence and the verification of effects purported for the so-called "PHOENIX" Project.
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REQUEST: The DCI's declassification committee should review the history and life of this program to determine what parts of it may be declassified and converted into an open-world activity. (U)

RESPONSE: In March 1994, and prior to the receipt of Congressional language to review program documents for declassification, the DIA's Technology Assessment and Support Activity in concert with the SAIC's CSL initiated a review of SRI-originated R&D reports covering the period 1973 through 1989. As a result of that review, 45 SRI-originated project documents were reviewed and all references regarding DoD involvement were excised and the documents declassified. DIA's General Counsel and Public Affairs Office concurred with the declassification action in September 1994. This DIA initiative should establish the precedent for the DCI's declassification committee to continue this effort once the program is officially transferred to CIA. (S/NOFORN)

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